

Biographies: Featured Presenters and Coaches

DR. HAROLD ASTURIAS: FEATURED PRESENTER

*Director of the Center for Mathematics Excellence and Equity (CeMEE),
University of California, Berkeley*

At the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Asturias oversees the Center for Mathematics Excellence and Equity (CeMEE) at the Lawrence Hall of Science. Previously, he served as Deputy Director of the Mathematics and Science Professional Development at the University of California Office of the President. Dr. Asturias provided oversight for the English Language Development Professional Development Institutes (ELD-PDI). His work has focused on incorporating the language of math with explicit language goals, vocabulary routines and other supports into rigorous math lessons. Previously, Dr. Asturias served as the Director of the New Standards Portfolio Assessment Project and the Mathematics Unit for New Standards. That project was a national effort to develop national standards and assessments. He led the development team of experts, involving many states and teachers, resulting in two assessment systems: The New Standards Portfolio and the Reference Examination. Dr. Asturias was also a member of the writing group for the NCTM Assessment Standards for School Mathematics. He has many years of experience designing and implementing professional development for math teachers who teach English learners (ELs). As an English learner, Dr. Asturias has helped to develop several nationally recognized resources for various entities. These include the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Council of Great City Schools and English Language Success Forum. Dr. Asturias earned an M.D. from the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala City and Bilingual Teaching Credentials from the California State University, Los Angeles.

LYDIA STACK: FEATURED PRESENTER

*Founding member of Stanford's Understanding Language initiative on Language,
Literacy, and Learning in the Content Areas*

Ms. Stack is an international English language consultant, curriculum writer and teacher trainer. In her role as a founding member of Stanford's Understanding Language initiative, Ms. Stack worked to enrich academic content and language instruction for ELs. She made explicit the language and literacy skills required to meet the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Next Generation Science Standards. In 1991-92, Ms. Stack was President of TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages), an international association of English-language teachers. Ms. Stack has worked in the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) as an elementary and secondary English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher. She has coauthored a number of textbooks for secondary ELs. After leaving the classroom, Ms. Stack was in charge of the Mentor Teacher program and then became the director of ESL/ELD Secondary Programs. She also taught Second Language Acquisition and Methods and Materials classes at Stanford University and San Francisco State University. She has written ESL standards for students and teachers, curriculum writing and teacher training. Her awards include, among others, the Exceptional Educator award from the California Lottery and Legislature (2005) and Heinle Lifetime Achievement Award (2004). She also won the TESOL James E. Alatis Award (2003) for outstanding service to the English as a Second Language Teaching profession. Ms. Stack received her BA in Sociology from Dominican College and her MA in Education from California State University.

SUSAN PIMENTEL: FEATURED PRESENTER

Co-Founder, StandardsWork Inc. and Student Achievement Partners

Susan Pimentel has led the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education's (OCTAE's) standards-based reform and program improvement initiatives for the past 18 years. She has been the principal consultant, developer and trainer for OCTAE's multi-year, continuing Standards-in-Action (SIA) initiative since 2011. The SIA initiative — and the many professional development resources it has developed — focuses on assisting states in implementing their high-quality state-adopted content standards. Ms. Pimentel has provided extensive training to advance standards-based educational reforms, strengthen instruction and enhance learner outcomes. Her work includes forging a stronger link between adult education, postsecondary education and the working world. Ms. Pimentel served as lead writer of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts and Literacy (ELA/Literacy). Soon after, Ms. Pimentel joined the Understanding Language Project at Stanford University, dedicated to ensuring ELs have full access to rigorous academic instruction. In that capacity, she co-authored an influential paper, *Realizing Opportunities for English Learners in the Common Core English Language Arts and Disciplinary Literacy Standards*. She also facilitated the expert team that created the English Language Proficiency (ELP) Development Framework, which assists states with their development of ELP standards. From 2007 to 2015, Ms. Pimentel served on the National Assessment Governing Board, an independent, bipartisan board that sets policy for the national assessment. She became vice-chair of the body in November 2012. Ms. Pimentel holds a BS in Early Childhood Education and a JD from Cornell University.

CHONDA LONG: FEATURED PRESENTER

Director of Professional Development, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

At NCTM, Chonda Long oversees the development, implementation, delivery and evaluation of standards-based professional development programs. She leads NCTM's webinar program, professional learning services and pre-conference workshops. Ms. Long served as a mathematics trainer and coach on OCTAE's SIA initiative, where she provided to state teams implementing their state-adopted standards. She also helped to develop and identify training materials for the states' in-person and online use. Ms. Long was a member of the SIA development and support team that facilitated the filming of adult educators teaching standards-aligned lessons in mathematics. She developed supplementary materials to accompany the classroom videos to help adult educators understand and implement the demands of the standards' key instructional shifts. Subsequently, OCTAE invited Ms. Long to provide SIA training to other states through the LINCS National Professional Development Center. She has also served as a subject matter expert on OCTAE's Advancing Mathematics Teaching and Learning in Adult Education initiative. Before joining NCTM, Ms. Long was a high school math teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, VA. She holds a BS in Mathematics from Howard University and an M.Ed. in Curriculum Instruction and Ph.D. in Education from George Mason University.

JANE ROY: FEATURED PRESENTER

Educational Consultant for Adult Education

Jane Roy is the EL content lead for the SIA 2.0 initiative. She has worked as an educational consultant on standards-based education since 2011, providing expert consulting services to OCTAE on several national initiatives. She recently provided content expertise and development support for the Preparing Adult English Language Learners for Challenging State-Adopted Content Standards project, 2015-2018. While working on the project, Ms. Roy participated in the process that resulted in the identification of the ELP Standards for Adult Education (2016). Ms. Roy has created professional development materials designed to promote and explain the ELP standards and how to begin using them. Ms. Roy has supported numerous states in their efforts to implement standards-based instruction. Ms. Roy's educational experience includes teaching, program management, curriculum development and teacher training and support in ESL — both in the US and overseas. More recently, Ms. Roy directed the Intensive ESL Program at South Dakota State University and taught online courses for South Dakota's K-12 ESL certification program. Ms. Roy previously worked with the National Institute for Literacy and the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, DC. She has also developed English proficiency assessment tests and facilitated professional development workshops for state and national initiatives. Ms. Roy holds a MAT in ESL from Georgetown University.

NICOLE BRAVO: SIA 2.0 PROJECT MANAGER

Manager of Strategic Partnerships, English Learners Success Forum

Nicole Bravo is the Manager of Strategic Partnerships for the English Learners Success Forum. There she helps to foster relationships with states, districts and content developers in order to increase the availability and raise importance for high quality instructional materials for English learners. Ms. Bravo was previously at Student Achievement Partners (SAP) as a Portfolio Manager. She has worked with districts and states across the country and national organizations like the Council of Chief State School Officers. For StandardsWork, Ms. Bravo managed the convention on Cultivating Excellence in English Learner Instruction (CEELI), which brought together organizations and districts for two days of learning. Ms. Bravo also oversaw the production of 1,700 PowerPoint decks for a Detroit Public Schools' project that assisted K–8 educators in teaching EL Education. In that capacity, she managed 60 consultants that worked together to complete this project in eight months. Ms. Bravo has a BA in International Relations from the University of LaVerne and an MA in International Relations from Claremont Graduate University, along with a PMP certification from the Project Management Institute.

SIA 2.0 Coaches

DAWN ADAMS

Assistant Principal, RISE Academy for Adult Achievement, Washoe County, Nevada

As Assistant Principal, Ms. Adams was instrumental in the restructuring efforts that have helped RISE become a robust and well-respected adult education program. It is widely known for empowering students to rise to their full potential with the knowledge and skills for college and career readiness. She regularly facilitates training for instructors in the academy's programs (ABE, EL and adult high school) to ensure access to College and Career Readiness (CCR) standards. Ms. Adams and her staff created standards-aligned curriculum maps for their high school equivalency, EL and high school diploma programs. Before joining RISE, Ms. Adams coordinated the Northern Nevada Carpenter Union's ESL, math and safety courses for adults. At the same time, she taught middle and high school in Washoe County (NV) School District (WCSD). For five years, she instructed university courses, at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and the Sierra Nevada College, for teachers pursuing their EL endorsement. Later, she coordinated the middle and high school EL programs for WCSD. She has instructed adult and adolescent ELs at all levels. Ms. Adams holds a MA in School Administration from Columbia University. She also holds a MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and a BA in Spanish and Film from UNR. She conducted her master's thesis on the implementation of a vocational adult English program. Additionally, she holds the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Certification in Teaching English as a New Language.

MIMI ALKIRE

Mathematics Educational Consultant and Principal, Alkire Consulting

Mimi Alkire has served as the math content lead for the SIA initiative since 2013. Her responsibilities have included preparing the SIA Foundational and Advanced Level Professional Development Resources (currently posted on LINCS). She led the SIA math coaches team and provided technical assistance to states transitioning to implement their higher-level, state-adopted standards. Before that, Ms. Alkire was part of the team that identified and organized the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Mathematics Standards for Adult Education. Ms. Alkire was a secondary math teacher with Portland Public Schools and an adjunct mathematics teacher at Portland Community College. Since retiring from teaching in 2005, she has contributed her expertise to several projects and organizations. They include Achieve, CCSSO, Illustrative Mathematics, New York State Education Department, Common Core Inc., International Baccalaureate and EdImagine Strategy Group. This work has focused on evaluating — and training others to evaluate — the quality of state standards for mathematics and accompanying lessons, units and assessments. Ms. Alkire helped develop and promote an online evaluation tool to rate the quality of Open Educational Resources (OER) and its academic standard's alignment. Following the tool's launch, she trained a group of math experts who rated over 100 OER resources. She served as the project manager and lead writer for New York State's Grade 9 curriculum writing project. These math resources are available online as part of the EngageNY curriculum and published as Eureka Math. Ms. Alkire holds a BA from Northwest Nazarene University and a MAT in Mathematics and Education from Lewis & Clark College.

GAYLE BOX

Retired Senior Associate, College Prep, Kentucky Adult Education

During her ten years with Kentucky (KY) Skills U, Gayle Box was responsible for leading professional development on standards-based instruction across the state. Ms. Box led KY Skills U's SIA standards initiative and coordinated professional learning for math instruction. She was instrumental in the creation of the KY Skills U Lesson Bank. During her tenure with KY Skills U, she served as a panelist to identify model standards for mathematics instruction and assessment in adult education. She contributed to the content development of the Handbook for Sustaining Standards-Based Education in Adult Education. Ms. Box also served as a consultant during the process that revised the NRS Educational Functioning Level Descriptors for Mathematics. Ms. Box was selected to serve as a table coach at the SIA Implementation Institute in Newark, NJ. As a trainer in the LINCS National Professional Development Network, she provides to states the SIA foundational and advanced level trainings for Mathematics. Before joining Kentucky Division of Adult Education, Ms. Box spent five years as the lead adult education instructor in Perry County, Kentucky. Before moving to Kentucky, she taught choral music in Texas at middle school and collegiate levels. She holds both a B.M.Ed. and an M.Ed. from Texas State University.

KATE CRIST

Senior ELA/Literacy Specialist of Professional Learning, Student Achievement Partners

Kate Crist designs materials for teachers and organizations and facilitates research-based professional learning opportunities tied to states' challenging standards. She also provides standards-aligned professional learning opportunities and coaching at an adult education program in Reno NV. Ms. Crist served as an ELA/Literacy coach for three years on OCTAE's most recent SIA initiative. In that role, she supported state SIA implementation teams working to implement their new state standards. Ms. Crist has extensive experience supporting the alignment of instructional materials to high-quality state standards. She served as a calibrator and reviewer for EdReports, an independent nonprofit that measures the alignment, usability and quality of K-12 instructional materials. She also served as a peer reviewer for the Educators Evaluating the Quality of Instructional Products (EQIP) panel. Before joining SAP, Ms. Crist worked as a classroom teacher, program coordinator, professional development specialist and instructional coach in California and Nevada public schools. She was also a member of the Teacher Research Group at UC Berkeley History-Social Science Project. Ms. Crist holds a BA from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a MAT from the University of San Francisco.

RACHEL ETIENNE

Executive Vice President of Professional Learning, Student Achievement Partners

At SAP, Rachel Etienne directs professional learning activities designed to improve teachers' content knowledge and classroom effectiveness as they implement their state-adopted standards. Ms. Etienne creates and reviews exemplar curriculum materials aligned to these standards. She served as an ELA/Literacy coach on the OCTAE SIA initiative for over half a decade. As a coach, she supported state teams in implementing their new challenging state standards. She also contributed to the development and identification of tools and materials that states could use for virtual and in-person training. Ms. Etienne led the development of SIA ELA/Literacy classroom videos and accompanying materials for adult educators' use via LINCS. As a result of her work, OCTAE invited her to join the LINCS National Trainer Cadre. Before joining SAP, Ms. Etienne worked as a classroom teacher for the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE). There, she served as a premier literacy coach for NYCDOE and several nationally recognized charter school organizations. Ms. Etienne holds a BS in Mathematics and Elementary Education from Eastern Michigan University.

CHUCK KLINGER

Manager for Distance Learning, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11, Pennsylvania

Chuck Klinger coordinates Pennsylvania's (PA's) Distance Learning Project, a statewide adult education program for students unable to attend face-to-face classes. He also leads the technical assistance project that supports adult education programs in providing supplemental online instruction. Mr. Klinger served as a standout member of the state's SIA implementation team for mathematics. Through his work in Pennsylvania, he piloted the SIA Professional Development Units in Standards for Mathematics. He facilitated training and provided technical assistance to PA's adult educators to support their curriculum and instruction implementation aligned to PA's standards. As a result, OCTAE invited Mr. Klinger to serve as a table coach at SIA's Implementation Institutes in Nashville, TN, Washington DC and Newark, NJ. As a table coach, he helped participants gain a deeper understanding of the key shifts (instructional advances) reflected in states' new, higher-level mathematics standards. Before joining Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11, Mr. Klinger was a high school math teacher at Montgomery Area High School. He holds a BA in Secondary Education with a concentration in mathematics and a MA in Adult & Organizational Development from Temple University.

MEREDITH LIBEN

Independent Reading Consultant, Reading Done Right

Meredith Liben has served as the ELA/Literacy content lead for the SIA initiative since 2013. In that capacity, she has prepared the SIA ELA/Literacy professional development materials that appear on LINCS. She has provided technical assistance and support to the ELA/Literacy team of SIA coaches and to state teams transitioning to implement their state-adopted standards. She continues to provide support and technical assistance for curriculum development, standards implementation and teacher training to various schools, districts and education groups. Through her work with other educators, she continually strives to improve the quality of standards-based literacy instruction and bring research into practical application. Ms. Liben is currently an independent reading consultant and author, supporting selected literacy projects and promising new initiatives. Previously, Ms. Liben led literacy work at Student Achievement Partners for the first decade following the Common Core State Standards. She taught reading at the Career and Technical Teacher Education Program, Vermont Technical College and English at Community College of Vermont and Randolph (VT) CTE. She also directed the text-complexity validation research study for the CCSS that supports the reading standards for adult education, released by OCTAE in 2013. Ms. Liben holds a BA in Classics and Government from Oberlin College and a teaching certificate from the University of Massachusetts. She also holds a MAT in Rhetoric and Teaching of English from the City University of New York.

CRISTINA MARSH

Director, Jefferson Community and Technical College Kentucky Skills U (JCTC-KY Skills U)

Cristina Marsh oversees the administration, operation, program development and curriculum alignment of the Kentucky Skills U (formerly KY Adult Education) program in eight counties. Throughout her career, Ms. Marsh has assisted ELs to transition from English language acquisition programs to Adult Basic Education (ABE), certificate and employment programs. Her work has contributed to the uniform delivery of instruction delivery in Kentucky counties, which has bolstered student learning and success. She led a team of instructors to incorporate employability and English learning standards in instruction in the five highest-need sectors in Kentucky. As a result of her contributions, OCTAE invited Ms. Marsh to serve as a table coach at the SIA Implementation Institute in Nashville, TN. Ms. Marsh has taught math, Spanish 101, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and community education programs at JCTC in Carrollton, Shelby and Louisville KY. Ms. Marsh graduated with a BA in Interior Architecture from the University of Art in Oviedo, Spain. Additionally, she holds a certificate in Advanced Internet and Computer Technology from Marengo Academy in Spain.

DIANA MCINTYRE

Dean of Students, Washoe County School District, Reno, Nevada

Diana McIntyre has been working with students of all ages in the Washoe County School District for the past eighteen years. In her current Title I role, she guides district 21st Community Learning Centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities through a variety of partnerships and school-based programming. Previously, Ms. McIntyre worked with Nevada's Adult Education and Family Literacy Act program for five years. In that position, she coordinated and provided statewide professional development, managed the Mentor Teacher Program and served on Nevada's SIA implementation team. She developed multiple levels of training materials for both in-person and online trainings. She also served as a table coach at three national SIA institutes, supporting state teams as they learned how to implement SIA innovations. For eight years, Ms. McIntyre taught adult ELs at Truckee Meadows Community College in career pathways, workforce readiness skills and citizenship. For 11 years, she taught at the K-12 level, and she served as Dean at the elementary, middle and high school level. She holds a BS in Education and Special Education from the University of Nevada, Reno and an M.A.Ed. in Administration from the University of Phoenix.

LAKSHMI NAYAK

Adult Education Consultant

Lakshmi Nayak brings over 30 years of experience teaching students of all ages the knowledge and skills needed to connect meaningfully to the world around them. Most recently she was the Coordinator of the ELA Curriculum & Instruction Professional Development Center in the Massachusetts System for Adult Basic Education Support (SABES). She has presented workshops on incorporating science and social studies into AE classrooms and taught an AE science class at the Cambridge Community Learning Center for several years. Ms. Nayak served as a member of Massachusetts' SIA implementation team, where she incorporated learning on CCR standards for ELA/Literacy into professional development offerings. She advised practitioners to create or revise standards-aligned curricula and established a professional learning opportunity using SIA tools to assess teaching practices and materials. Before joining SABES, Ms. Nayak coached university students through cross-cultural internships from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to India. She also taught middle school science and was a high school writing tutor. In addition, she taught ELA, math, science, social studies, health & wellness, and the science of learning to GED students in Boston. She holds a BA from Wellesley College and a joint M.Ed. from Tufts University and the Shady Hill School Teacher Training Course.

RICHMOND ONOKPITE

Ward 5 Campus Principal, Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School, Washington, DC.

Richmond Onokpite is a Campus Principal at Ward 5. At the Academy of Hope, he teaches GED preparation classes in mathematics and science. He leads the research of best practices and provides content knowledge and resources related to the implementation of DC's academic content standards. Mr. Onokpite also facilitates standards-based professional development activities for the academy's instructional team. Because of his contributions, OCTAE invited Mr. Onokpite to serve as a table coach at the Washington, DC and Trenton, NJ trainings. As such, he guided and supported the participants through various SIA training activities. Shortly afterward, the SIA project videotaped Mr. Onokpite while teaching a standards-based lesson. His lesson, available in LINCS on the SIA Professional Development Resource page, showcases sound teaching methods combined with CCR-aligned content, materials and activities. OCTAE uses the video to help others understand what it means to construct and implement a standards-aligned lesson in mathematics. Mr. Onokpite holds an M.Ed. in Curriculum Instruction from the University of Maryland. He also holds a Graduate Certificate in Adult Education from the University of the District of Columbia.

SUSAN OTERO

Educational Specialist, Fairfax County Public Schools Adult ESOL Program, Virginia

In her tenth year, Susan Otero is an educational specialist with the Fairfax County Public Schools Adult ESOL Program. Ms. Otero has over 30 years of experience in adult ESOL. Throughout her career, she has gained expertise in teaching, developing curricular resources, managing programs and designing professional development. Ms. Otero has developed and facilitated professional development workshops for local, state and national audiences. Her work has focused on creating tools to assist teachers in delivering instruction and document progress using the English Language Proficiency Standards for Adult Education. Her work includes publishing online tutorials for new staff. Additionally, Ms. Otero developed a standardized oral appraisal and training seminar. She also created satisfaction and employment surveys, implemented standard lesson plans and designed an online manual for Lead Teachers. Ms. Otero has a MAT in TESOL and Bilingual Education from Georgetown University.

SHAKIELA ROSE RICHARDSON

Director of English Language Arts, UnboundEd

Shakiela Rose Richardson is the lead ELA content developer for UnboundEd. UnboundEd is an education reform nonprofit that provides standards-aligned resources and training for K–12 teachers and school leaders. In this role, she has created a companion curriculum to EngageNY with ample support for struggling students and an easy to implement format. She develops curricular guidance documents and hosts virtual and in-person meetings to ensure alignment with CCR standards. Ms. Richardson also develops and delivers professional learning opportunities to secondary ELA teachers, coaches and administrators at bi-annual standards institutes. She regularly leads communities of practice with partner organizations and districts, such as the District of Columbia and Odell Education. Additionally, Ms. Richardson has presented culturally responsive teaching practices for the National Council for Teachers of English. Before joining UnboundEd, she worked as a high school instructional coach in Newark, NJ. In that role, she launched literacy-based personal learning communities to support the implementation of standards-based education. Ms. Richardson taught ELA at Newark Evening High School to students pursuing their GEDs. She also taught at Newark Bridges High School, which served young adults who were over-age and under-credited due to interrupted learning. Ms. Richardson holds a BA in English and Secondary Education from William Paterson University. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in educational leadership at Montclair State University.

SARAH SIMPSON

Instructor, Kentucky Adult Education, Lawrence County

Sarah Simpson is the lead instructor at Lawrence County Adult Education in Kentucky. She teaches beginning literacy, ELA and math classes. Before this work, Ms. Simpson created a series of ELA course frameworks for the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation. She also produced a contextualized math unit to prepare adult education students for training in healthcare. She was named a 2015 finalist in Kentucky Adult Education's Outstanding Lesson Competition. As a standout member of Kentucky's SIA implementation team, OCTAE filmed her as she taught a standards-aligned lesson. The SIA video, portraying Sarah's classroom activities, plus the accompanying Video Resource Pak are available under SIA Professional Development Resources on LINCS. The intent of filming Sarah's classroom and students was to demonstrate exemplary practices in facilitating standards-based ELA/Literacy teaching and learning. Ms. Simpson has taught in a range of Kentucky programs, including ABE/ASE, ESL and corrections. She also consults as a lesson plan developer and content and curriculum expert. Ms. Simpson holds a BS in Elementary Education from Kentucky Christian University and an M.A.Ed. as a Literacy Specialist at the University of the Cumberlands.

STEPHANIE STEWART

*Program Manager, Apprenticeships and Industry Engagement, GateWay Community College,
Maricopa Community Colleges, Arizona*

Stephanie Stewart has worked in the field of adult education with the Maricopa County Community Colleges District in a variety of roles for over ten years. She is currently the Program Manager of Apprenticeships and Industry Engagement at GateWay Community College. Previously, she has worked as a Project Manager with Workforce Development and as an ABE Lead Mathematics Instructor/Professional Development Trainer with Rio Salado College. In that capacity, she taught multiple mathematics courses, teaching adult students at varying educational functioning levels, developed comprehensive program wide mathematics curriculum, and developed and delivered a multitude of professional development trainings. She facilitated the training of CCR SIA mathematics innovations for statewide implementation, served as a resource for state programs, and was selected as a table coach at the CCR SIA Implementation Institutes. She is a Regional Representative and Board Member for the Adult Numeracy Network. Ms. Stewart has also worked in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Adult Education for several years, conducting a variety of CCR aligned ABE Math Professional Development workshops statewide. Ms. Stewart has a BS in Human Development from Brigham Young University and an Adult Learning and Development certification.